



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture
West Virginia Field Office
1900 Kanawha Blvd E
Charleston, West Virginia 25305



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 14, 2016

Contact: Charmaine Wilson
(304) 357-5126

2015 PEACH and APPLE PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – In 2015, total **peach production** was 5,800 tons (11.6 million pounds), up 440 tons (880,000 pounds) from 2014. Utilized production totaled 5,660 tons (11.3 million pounds), an increase of 410 tons (820,000 pounds) from 2014. Value of utilized production totaled \$6.06 million, an increase of 13 percent from 2014. Bearing acres were estimated at 950, unchanged from 2014, with an average yield of 6.11 tons (12,220 pounds) per acre, up 0.47 tons (940 pounds) from 2014. The average price received per ton was estimated at \$1,070.00. This was an increase of \$50.00 per ton from 2014. Based on utilized production, West Virginia ranks 11th in the nation for peach production.

Total **apple production** for 2015 was estimated at 90.2 million pounds (2.15 million, 42 lb. bushels), down 4 percent, or 3.8 million pounds from 2014. Utilized production totaled 90.0 million pounds, down 4 million pounds from 2014. Apples for fresh market totaled 17.0 million pounds, down 3 million pounds from 2014. Apples for processing accounted for 73.0 million pounds of the 2015 crop, this is 1 million pounds less than the 2014 crop.

The average price received for 2015 apples was 15.0 cents per pound, unchanged from the 2014 price. Total value of utilized production was \$13.5 million for the crop, down \$608,000 from the 2014 value of \$14.1 million. Fresh market apples brought 33.0 cents per pound in 2015, down 0.6 cents per pound from 2014. Processed apples sold for \$217.00 per ton, up \$16 per ton from 2014.

Bearing acreage of apples totaled 4,400 acres in 2015, unchanged from 2014. The yield per acre was 20,500 pounds, 900 pounds per acre less than in 2014. The yield was based on total production, which includes unharvested production and fruit harvested but not sold due to marketing conditions. Based on utilized production, West Virginia ranks 9th in the nation for apple production.

United States – The U.S. **peach production** in 2015 was estimated at 847,210 tons, down less than 1 percent from the 2014 estimate of 852,939 tons. Of this production, 825,415 tons were utilized, down 2 percent from 2014. Bearing acreage of peaches totaled 99,790 acres, down 2,750 acres from 2014. Value of utilized production totaled \$605.8 million, down 4 percent from the 2014 total. The average price received for peaches was \$734.00 per ton, down \$17.00 per ton from the 2014 price.

Total **apple production** for 2015 is estimated at 10.0 billion pounds, down 15 percent from the 2014 total. Utilized apple production totaled 9.9 billion pounds, down 11 percent from 2014. Bearing acreage of apples totaled 315,880 acres in 2015, down 2,300 acres from 2014. Value of utilized production totaled \$3.39 billion, up 18 percent from the 2014 total. Price per pound averaged 34.2 cents, up 8.5 cents per pound from the 2014 price of 25.7 cents. A total of 6.9 billion pounds were sold for fresh market, down 13 percent from 2014. There were 3.07 billion pounds for processing, down 7 percent from the 2014 total.